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The Cambridge Modern History. Planned by the late Lord ACTON, LL.D., Regius Professor of Modern History. Edited by A. W. WARD, Litt.D., G. W. PROTHERO, Litt.D., and STANLEY LEATHES, M.A. Volume VI. *The Eighteenth Century.* (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1909. Pp. xxxvi, 1019.)

WHEN a twelve-volume work has reached its eleventh volume it is possible to deduce a formula for reviewing it, especially when successive volumes remain so true to type as do those of the *Cambridge Modern History*.

One may begin by pointing out that the subdivision among a larger number of collaborators than is necessary results in such a parcelling up of interrelated facts that much material appears without relation to other facts which make it historically significant and that no point of view can be maintained for any length of time. Lord Acton's hope that the readers should not know where one contributor laid down the pen and another took it up seems to have been interpreted that contributors were not to know what their collaborators covered or omitted. So one may go through the list of charges so frequently brought against this "monumental" undertaking. There are the usual minor mistakes, errors in pagination, and bibliographies that contain such illuminating and helpful suggestions as that of the *Königliches Geheimes Staatsarchiv* in Berlin and similar collections in Paris. These bibliographies are, as in previous volumes, indiscriminating check-lists of books which taken as a whole contain innumerable repetitions of titles, and considered by chapters exhibit the most unexpected omissions and inclusions. Certain bibliographies by their fullness, *e. g.*, those contributed by Mr. Chance, and those accompanying Professor Daniels's chapters on Prussia by their apparent limitation to works used, have each their special merits.

Let it be granted that it is the privilege of largely conceived works to have such shortcomings and it follows that it is not wholly just to be censorious because the *Cambridge Modern History* has made full use of its privileges.

This volume is entitled *The Eighteenth Century* and by this is meant the years 1715-1789. In the introduction which is perhaps the distinctly synthetic part of the volume, the editors point out that volume VII. treated all American history and volume VIII. on the French Revolution reached back to gather in those elements which explain the Revolutionary movements. It may be added that volume V. on the age of Louis XIV. reached forward to include Russia to the death of Peter the Great and Sweden to the death of Charles XII., besides treating certain scientific and religious movements which have significance not as products of the seventeenth century but as genetic influences in the eighteenth.

The chief interest of the volume is in international relations. The

chief emphasis is on Great Britain and France. To this phase Dr. Ward and Mr. Chance contribute the account of the Hanoverian succession and the foreign policy of George I. to 1721; Mr. Temperley, the Age of Walpole and the Pelhams; Mr. Terry, Jacobitism and the Union; Mr. Armstrong, two chapters on France and Spain under the Bourbons to 1746. Professor Lemoine's chapter on the Reversal of Alliances and the concluding years of Louis XV. follows two chapters after those on the War of the Austrian Succession and the Seven Years' War on which Mr. Atkinson and Professor Emil Daniels collaborate. The concluding chapter of this group on England from 1756 to 1793 is assigned to Professor Michael (Chatham), Mr. Riggs (the King's Friends), and Mr. Griffin (peace and the rise of the younger Pitt). A group supplementing those on French-English matters would include besides those on the Silesian wars already mentioned in the first of which Professor Daniels gives a connected account of Frederick William I., a weak chapter on financial experiments and colonial development and much more satisfactory ones on Ireland and on India to the trial of Hastings. Outside these groups are the chapters by Mr. Bain on Poland, Sweden, and Russia under Anne and Elizabeth, Mr. Reddaway's account of Denmark, 1730-1794, Italy and the Papacy by Mrs. Vernon, Switzerland by Professor Schollenberger (satisfactory), and the Rev. George Edmundson's rather arid chapter on Portugal and Spain, 1750-1794, to which he adds three pages on Brazil in the seventeenth and eighteenth century. Three great rulers of the century are given separate treatment: Joseph II. by Professor Hubert, Catherine II. by Dr. Höttsch, and Frederick II. after 1763 (and his successor) by Emil Daniels, with a five-page supplement on Prussia and Poland, 1763-1797, by Dr. Höttsch. These three chapters are, on the whole, better than the average of the volume and in view of the scarcity of trustworthy material in English on continental European history in this century they are welcome as substantial summaries.

Mr. A. L. Smith's chapter on English Political Philosophy in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries is illuminating but Professor Vaughan's chapter on the Romantic Movement, considered as an independent contribution, is decidedly unsatisfactory. It shows no sense for the genesis of Romanticism and but little for contemporary and contributory movements. The bibliography falls far below the standard of the series. Its inclusion of school texts and omission of the sound work of American scholars, *e. g.*, Phelps, Farley, Beers, and Reynolds, and of editions of authors mentioned in the chapter, are noticeable defects. The substitution of a chapter on the efforts at legal reform and codification would have been a much more satisfactory and enlightening contribution to the history of the eighteenth century.

If any chapters be selected for commendation it is not because they agree with any opinions of the reviewer but because they have opinions with which one may agree or disagree, because, to quote Lord Acton's

directions to contributors, they "supply help to the student not material to historians" and are, in approximation at least, "not a burden to the memory but an illumination to the soul".

It seems to me that Mr. Temperley has written an admirable account of the age of Walpole and the Pelhams. Walpole seems almost like a personality. Sufficient space is taken to develop his main measures and to relate them to the prevailing mercantilism. Though the account is favorable to him, his shortcomings and the ineffectiveness of his system to meet changing colonial conditions are freely exposed. The dictum that politically the colonies had little to complain of before "the crucial year 1750" may not be accepted by those who attach some importance to the prevailing unsatisfactory conditions between appointed royal governors and elected provincial assemblies. The chapter on England (1756-1793) by Michael, Rigg, and Griffin, may be designated as one which meets the purpose for which it was written. Professor Michael's view of the elder Pitt is without the shadows cast on his motives between 1763 and 1765 by the biography of Ruville. That the three writers should occasionally lose their way in the maze of party factions and misplace the affiliations of a statesman (*e. g.*, Newcastle should be substituted for Bute, p. 419) is less a reason for criticism than the rigid adherence to a somewhat antiquated interpretation of British colonial taxation after 1763 (p. 432) and the failure in this and Mr. Temperley's chapter to throw any definite light on the institutional history of the cabinet in the eighteenth century.

That these twenty-four monographic chapters give no adequate survey of Europe on the eve of the Revolution, no unified view of an age that had greatly conceived, greatly sinned, and greatly failed, is not a harsh judgment. Indeed, the editors, if I read their introduction aright, feel that they are presenting here not the eighteenth century but only volume VI. of the *Cambridge Modern History*.

GUY STANTON FORD.

Bernstorfferne og Danmark: Bidrag til den Danske Stats Politiske og Kulturelle Udviklingshistorie 1750-1835. Af AAGE FRIIS. Volume I. Slægtens Traditioner og Forudsætninger. (Copenhagen: Det Nordiske Forlag. 1903. Pp. 447.)

Bernstorffske Papirer: Udvalgte Breve og Optegnelser vedrørende Familien Bernstorff i Tiden fra 1732 til 1835. Udgivne af AAGE FRIIS. Volumes I. and II. (Copenhagen: Gyldendalske Boghandel. 1904, 1907. Pp. xvi, 818, 95; xii, 708, 86.)

THE Bernstorff Papers certainly are among the most important Scandinavian publications of recent years; their importance is not confined to the history of Denmark but extends to the whole field of European history in the eighteenth century.

The Bernstorff family gives a typical instance of the extreme